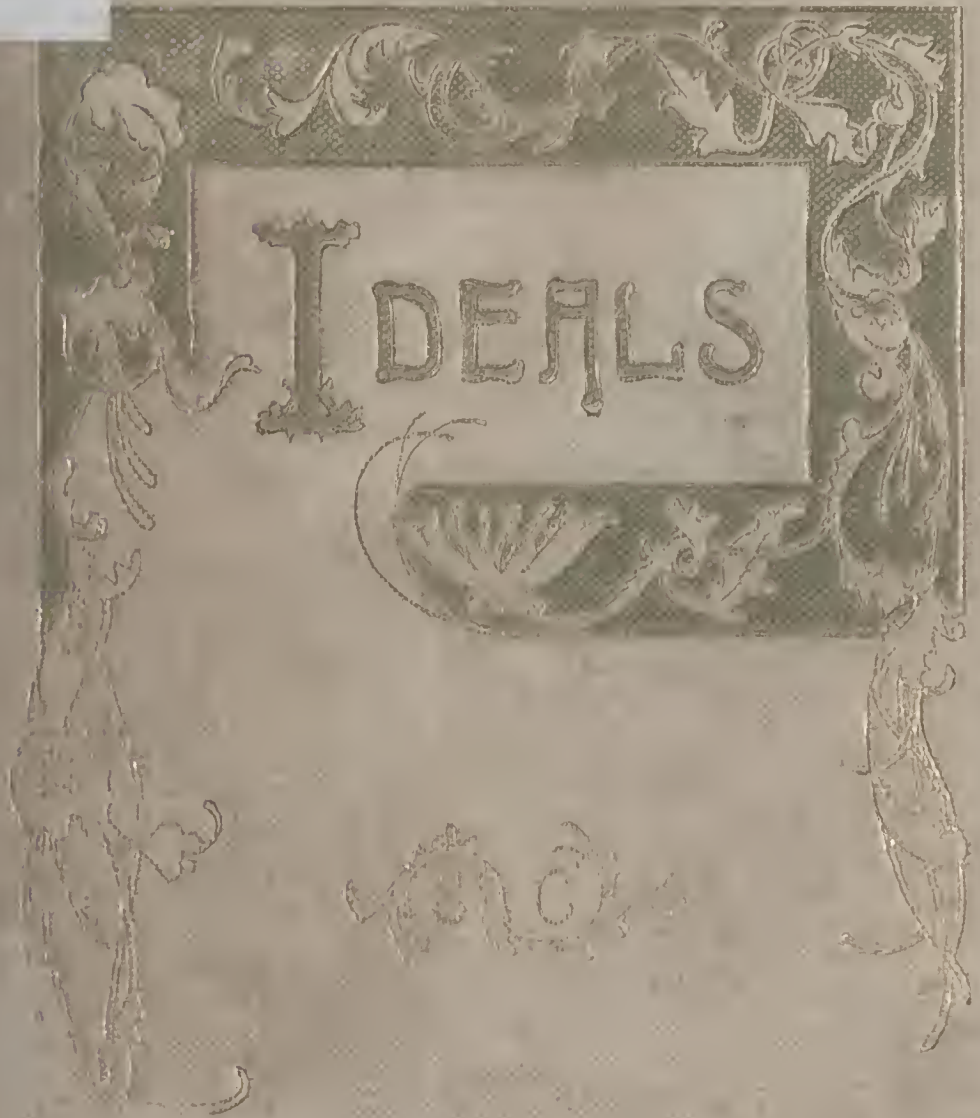


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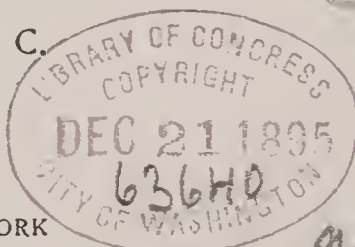
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.



IDEALS

SELECTIONS
FROM
VARIOUS SOURCES

By S. C.



NEW YORK
JAMES POTT & CO.
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LOVINGLY DEDICATED
TO
MY FRIENDS

PREFACE

Seldom has a subject been oftener discussed than that of ideals, and no wonder, as it is vast and boundless ; for no sooner is one ideal achieved than another comes to light. The views expressed are apt to be extreme—either too visionary and impractical, or else too pessimistic and incredulous. The happy medium is always hard to reach, but here it is almost harder than anywhere else.

My aim in selecting the following quotations has been to combine and harmonize, as far as possible, these conflicting ideas, and to show that the holding of ideals does not necessarily prove that one must be blind

to existing evils. The man who has an end in view, and that end a good one, will generally see life in its true relations, and recognize the fact that, although there is much evil in the world, the light is still working its way through all the apparent wrong. It is true that there are times when evil seems to be gaining the upper hand, but if you look long enough you will gradually see the scales change and the good outbalance the bad.

He who is constantly on the lookout for the darkness will finally become so blinded that he will fail to see the light. A gloomy, mistrustful nature will only attract negative influences; for it is a well-known law that supply is equal to demand, and that you get only what you expect. On the other hand, one who is looking for the best in people will

create such a positive atmosphere around him that he will unconsciously draw forth what is noblest in others.

The air of the mountain tops is too rarefied to admit of our always dwelling there. For this reason we have our periods of hard toil in the valleys, where we learn to gather strength for the next mountain climb. If we steadily pursue our ideal we may have many valleys of difficulty to go through, but each succeeding summit will be higher than the last, and we will gain broader visions of the great future lying before each one of us.

My friends have always helped me in so many things that it is with loving thanks I dedicate to them the following thoughts, trusting that the experiences of the men and

women who have struggled and fought in the pursuance of their ideals may act as an incentive in their lives.

S. C.

IDEALS

Still, through our paltry stir and
strife

Glows down the wished Ideal,
And Longing molds in clay what
Life

Carves in the marble Real !
To let the new life in,—we know
Desire must ope the portal :
Perhaps the longing to be so
Helps make the Scul immortal.

———— LOWELL

Unlike Philosophy, the Gospel
has an Ideal Life to offer,—not to a
few only, but to all. JOWETT

————

Ah! but a man's reach must
exceed his grasp,
Or what's a Heaven for?

BROWNING

It is not by regretting what is irreparable that true work is to be done, but by making the best of what we are. It is not by complaining that we have not the right tools, but by using well the tools we have. What we are, and where we are, is God's providential arrangement,—God's doing, though it may be man's misdoing; and the manly and the wise way is to look your disadvantages in the face and see what can be made out of them. Life, like war, is a series of mistakes, and he is not the best Christian nor the best general who makes the fewest false steps. He is the best who wins the most splendid victories by the retrieval of mistakes. Forget mistakes; organize victory out of mistakes.

F. W. ROBERTSON

Life upon the larger scale, the
higher!—

When, graduating up in a spiral
line

Of still expanding and ascending
gyves,

It pushes towards the intense sig-
nificance

Of all things hungry for the infinite.

E. B. BROWNING

We needs must love the Highest,
when we see it.

———. TENNYSON

'Tis a thing impossible to frame
Conceptions equal to the Soul's
desires;—

And the most difficult of tasks to
keep

Heights, which the Soul is com-
petent to gain.

WORDSWORTH

Know that "impossible," where truth and mercy and the everlasting voice of nature order, has no place in the brave man's dictionary. That when all men have said "Impossible," and tumbled noisily elsewhere, and thou alone art left, then first thy time and opportunity have come. It is for thee now: do thou that, and ask no man's counsel but thy own only and God's. Brother, thou hast possibility in thee for much: the possibility of writing on the eternal skies the record of a heroic life.

CARLYLE

The common problem—yours,—
mine,—every one's—
Is not to fancy what were fair in
Life
Provided it could be;—but, finding
first

What may be, then find how to
make it fair

Up to our means:—a very different
thing!

No abstract, intellectual plan of Life
Quite irrespective of Life's plainest
laws—

But one a man, who is man and
nothing more,

May lead . . . Idealize away! . . .

You're welcome, nay, you're wise!

BROWNING

Ideals are the very soul of life.

WESTCOTT

The dispositions, affections, inclinations of soul, which shall issue hereafter in perfection, must be trained and nurtured in us throughout the whole course of this earthly life. When shall we bear in mind

this plain truth, that the future perfection of the saints is not a translation from one state or disposition of soul into another, diverse from the former; but the carrying out, and, as it were, the blossom and the fruitage of one and the same principle of spiritual life, which, through their whole career on earth, has been growing with an even strength, putting itself forth in the beginnings and promise of perfection, reaching upward with steadfast aspirations after perfect holiness?

H. E. MANNING

Inspirations—which, could they be
things,
And stay with us, and we could
hold them fast,
Were our good angels.

LONGFELLOW

Thy condition is but the stuff
thou art to shape that same Ideal
out of. CARLYLE

Lead, kindly Light, amid the
 encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on;
The night is dark, and I am far
 from home,
Lead Thou me on.
Keep Thou my feet; I do not
 ask to see
The distant scene; one step
 enough for me.
J. H. NEWMAN

If you do not wish for His King-
dom, don't pray for it. But if you
do, you must do more than pray
for it; you must work for it.
RUSKIN

Yet sets she not her soul so steadily
Above, that she forgets her ties
to earth,
But her whole thought would
almost seem to be
How to make glad one lowly
human hearth:—
For with a gentle courage she doth
strive
In thought and word and feeling
so to live,
As to make Earth next Heaven!

————— LOWELL

If you build castles in the air,
your labor will not be lost;—that is
where they should be;—now put
foundations under them. ANON

—————

If I cannot realize my Ideal, I can
at least idealize my Real.

GANNETT

Then be it so!
For in better things we yet may
 grow,
Onward and upward still our way,
With the joy of progress from day
 to day;
Nearer and nearer every year
To the visions and hopes most true
 and dear!
Children still of a Father's love,
Children still of a home above!
 Thus we look back
Without a sigh, o'er the lengthen-
 ing track.

F. R. HAVERGAL

You will find it less easy to up-
root faults than to choke them by
gaining virtues. Do not think of
your faults, still less of others' faults;
in every person who comes near
you look for what is good and

strong: honor that; rejoice in it;
and, as you can, try to imitate it;
and your faults will drop off, like
dead leaves, when their time comes.

RUSKIN

You, who hold dear this self-con-
ceived Ideal,
Whose faith and works alone can
make it real,—
Bring all your fairest gifts to deck
her shrine,
Who lifts our lives away from *thine*
and *mine*,
And feeds the lamp of manhood
more divine
With fragrant oil of quenchless
constancy.

LOWELL

Our only greatness is that we
aspire. J. INGELOW

The situation that has not its duty, its Ideal, was never yet occupied by man. Yes, here in this miserable, despicable Actual, wherein thou even now standest,—here or nowhere is thy Ideal! Work it out therefrom! . . . The Ideal is in thyself, the impediment too is in thyself.

CARLYLE

You perhaps will say that all people fall short of the perfection of the Gospel, and therefore you are content with your failings. But this is saying nothing to the purpose: for the question is not whether Gospel perfection can be fully attained, but whether you come as near it as a sincere intention and careful diligence can carry you. Whether you are not in a much lower state than you might

be if you sincerely intended and carefully labored to advance yourself in all Christian virtues.

WM. LAW

The vision of the Ideal guards monotony of work from becoming monotony of life.

WESTCOTT

A man's best things are nearest
him,

Lie close about his feet,
It is the distant and the dim

That we are sick to greet:
For flowers that grow our hands
beneath

We struggle and aspire,—
Our hearts must die, except they
breathe

The air of fresh Desire.

HOUGHTON

We know not exactly how low the least degree of obedience is, which will bring a man to Heaven; but this we are quite sure of, that he who aims no higher will be sure to fall short even of that, and that he who goes farthest beyond it will be most blessed.

JOHN KEBLE

Every man has his own vocation. There is one direction in which all space is open to him. He has faculties silently inviting him thither to endless exertion. He is like a ship in a river: he runs against obstructions on every side but one; on that side all obstruction is taken away, and he sweeps serenely over a deepening channel into an infinite sea.

EMERSON

Man was made to grow, not stop;
That help he needeth once and
needs no more—
Having grown but an inch by—
is withdrawn,
For he hath new needs,—and new
helps to these.
This imports solely, man should
mount on each
New height in view; the help
whereby he mounts—
The ladder-rung his foot has left—
may fall,
Since all things suffer change, save
God the Truth.
Man apprehends Him newly at each
stage
Whereat earth's ladder drops,—its
service done;
And nothing shall prove twice what
once was proved.

BROWNING

Of all paths a man could strike into, there *is* at any given moment a *best path* for every man; a thing which, here and now, it were of all things *wisest* for him to do; which could he but be led or driven to do, he were then doing "like a man," as we phrase it. His success in such case were complete, his felicity a maximum. This path, to find this path and walk in it, is the one thing needful to him.

CARLYLE

Some sounds sighed ever for a
harmony
With other deeper, fainter tones,
that still
Drew nearer from the unknown
depths, wherein
The individual goeth out to God.

MACDONALD

Have we not all, amid earth's petty
 strife,
Some pure ideal of a noble life,
That once seemed possible? Did
 we not hear
The flutter of its wings, and feel it
 near,
And just within our reach? It
 was!—And yet
We lost it in this daily jar and fret,
And now live idle in a vague regret.
But still our place is kept, and it
 will wait
Ready for us to fill it, soon or late:
No star is ever lost we once have
 seen,—
We always may be what we might
 have been!

A. PROCTER

Trifles make perfection, and per-
fection is no trifle.

MICHAEL ANGELO

If we wish to overcome evil, we must overcome it by good. There are doubtless many ways of overcoming the evil in our own hearts, but the simplest, easiest, most universal, is to overcome it by active occupation in some good word or work. The best antidote against evil of all kinds, against the evil thoughts which haunt the soul, against the needless perplexities which distract the conscience, is to keep hold of the good we have. Impure thoughts will not stand against pure words, and prayers, and deeds. Little doubts will not avail against great certainties. Fix your affections on things above, and then you will be less and less troubled by the cares, the temptations, the troubles of things on earth.

A. P. STANLEY

We may do
Our Father's business in these
temples murk,
Thus swift and steadfast, thus
intent and strong;
While thus, apart from toil, our
souls pursue
Some high, calm, spheric tune,
and prove our work
The better for the sweetness of
our song.

E. B. BROWNING

The Lord knows how to make
stepping-stones for us of our de-
fects, even; it is what He lets them
be for. He remembereth—He re-
membereth in the making—that we
are but dust; the dust of earth that
He *chose* to make something little
lower than the angels out of.

A. D. T. WHITNEY

By contemplation of created things
By steps we may ascend to God.

—————
MILTON

Love taketh up no malign elements; its spirit prompteth it to cover in mercy all things that ought not to be exposed, to believe all of good that can be believed, to hope all things that a good God makes possible, and to endure all things that the hope may be made good.

—————
J. H. THOM

Rest is not quieting
The busy career;
Rest is the fitting
Of self to its sphere.

'Tis loving and serving
The highest and best!
'Tis onwards, unswerving,—
And that is true rest.

J. S. DWIGHT

The thing we long for,—that we are
For one transcendent moment!
Before the Present, poor and bare,
Can make its sneering comment!
Longing is God's fresh heaven-
ward will
With our poor earthward striving;
We quench it that it may be still
Content with merely living;
But would we learn that heart's full
scope
Which we are hourly wronging,
Our lives must climb from hope to
hope
And realize our longing!

LOWELL

Nor doubt that golden cords
Of good works, mingling with
the visions, raise
The soul to purer worlds.

WORDSWORTH

Yet I argue not
Against Heaven's hand or will, nor
bate a jot
Of heart or hope; but still bear up
and steer
Right onward. MILTON

Because Thou sat'st not, lonely
evermore,
With mighty thoughts informing
language high:
But walking in Thy poem continually
Didst utter Acts,—of all true forms
the core;
Instead of parchment, writing on
the soul
High thoughts and aspirations,
being so
Thine own Ideal; . . . Thou didst
reach Thy goal
Triumphant, but with little of
acclaim,
Even from Thine own, escaping
not their blame. MACDONALD

Only in looking heavenward, not in looking earthward, does what we can call Union, Mutual Love, Society begin to be possible.

CARLYLE

You have a disagreeable duty to do at twelve o'clock. Do not blacken nine, and ten, and eleven, and all between, with the color of twelve. Do the work of each, and reap your reward in peace. So when the dreaded moment in the future becomes the present, you shall meet it walking in the light, and that light will overcome its darkness. The best preparation is the present well seen to, the last duty done. For this will keep the eyes so clear and the body so full of light that the right action will be perceived at once, the right words

will rush from the heart to the lips, and the man, full of the spirit of God because he cares for nothing but the will of God, will trample on the evil thing in love, and be sent, it may be, in a chariot of fire to the presence of his Father, or stand unmoved amid the cruel mockings of the men he loves.

MACDONALD

In organic evolution species are transformed by the environment. In human evolution character is transformed by its own ideal. . . . Organic evolution is pushed onward and upward from behind and below; human evolution is drawn upward and forward from above and in front by the attractive force of ideals.

HENRY WOOD

(*"God's Image in Man"*)

We are compassed about by a cloud of witnesses, whose hearts throb in sympathy with every effort and struggle, and who thrill with joy at every success. How should this thought check and rebuke every worldly feeling and unworthy purpose, and enshrine us, in the midst of a forgetful and unspiritual world, with an atmosphere of heavenly peace! They have overcome—have risen—are crowned, glorified; but still they remain to us, our assistants, our comforters, and in every hour of darkness their voice speaks to us: “So we grieved, so we struggled, so we fainted, so we doubted; but we have overcome, we have obtained, we have seen, we have found—and in our victory behold the certainty of thy own.”

H. B. STOWE

There is in all things an Ideal, a Divine principle, revealing itself in spite of contradictory elements,—something which it would fain be, yet which it only can be in a sudden, transitory flash, as an ordinary face will in some moment of satisfied affection, of exalted feeling, be transfigured into beauty and nobleness.

DORA GREENWELL

Everything depends on storing up in ourselves, by a habit of well-doing, a great and ever-increasing fund of moral power which shall be available to brace us against sudden temptation, to help us carry out better purposes, and to hold us steady and true to the Ideal.

C. G. AMES

Yes, this sin which has sent me weary-hearted to bed and desperate in heart to morning work, that has made my plans miscarry until I am a coward, that cuts me off from prayer, that robs the sky of blueness and the earth of springtime, and the air of freshness, and human faces of friendliness,—this blasting sin which, perhaps, has made my bed in hell for me so long,—*this can be conquered*. I do not say annihilated, but, better than that, *conquered*, captured and transfigured into a *friend*: so that I at last shall say, “My temptation has become my strength!—for to the very fight with it I owe my force.”

———— GANNETT

Before each one of us a castle
stands,
Peopled with thoughts,—and there
our thoughts must dwell.

Beneath is many a darkened dun-
geon cell.
The middle stories look o'er pleasant
lands,
But from the towers a glorious view
expands
Of lake and forest, plain and
wooded dell,
From snow-tipped peak to where
the ocean's swell
Breaks on the cliff or rolls o'er
shimmering sands.
Shall we, with cowardice, forget
the sight,
And send our thoughts to pine in
dungeons drear,
To lie there chained,—clouded in
endless night,
And trembling with a never-ceasing
fear?
Or urge them on to climb the
tower's height,
To where our souls can see the
dawn's first light? J. W. G.

There is nothing like the first glance we get at duty, before there has been any special pleading of our affections or inclinations. Duty is never uncertain at first. It is only after we have got involved in the mazes and sophistries of wishing that things were otherwise than they are, that it seems indistinct. Considering a duty is often only explaining it away. Deliberation is often only dishonesty. God's guidance is plain, when we are true.

ROBERTSON

We have only to be patient, to pray, and to do His will, according to our present light and strength, and the growth of the soul will go on. The plant grows in the mist and under clouds as truly as under sunshine. So does the heavenly principle within.

CHANNING

Not in vain the distance beacons;
forward, forward let us range,
Let the great world spin forever
down the ringing grooves of
change.

Only that which made us, meant
us to be higher by and by,
Set the sphere of all the boundless
heavens within the human eye.

Sent the shadow of Himself, the
boundless, through the human
soul;
Boundless inward, in the atom,
boundless outward, in the whole.

TENNYSON

The real is the fulfilment of the
ideal. The ideal that becomes a
practical reality opens to the per-
ception of a higher ideal.

ANON

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting:

The soul that rises with us, our
life's star,

Hath had elsewhere its setting,

And cometh from afar:

Not in entire forgetfulness,

And not in utter nakedness,

But trailing clouds of glory do we
come

From God, who is our home.

Heaven lies about us in our infancy!

Shades of the prison-house begin
to close

Upon the growing boy,

But he beholds the light, and
whence it flows,

He sees it in his joy;

The youth, who daily farther
from the East

Must travel, still is Nature's priest,

And by the vision splendid

Is on his way attended;

At length the man perceives it die
 away,
And fade into the light of common
 day.

.
Thou little child, yet glorious in the
 might
Of heaven-born freedom on thy
 being's height,
Why with such earnest pains dost
 thou provoke
The years to bring the inevitable
 yoke,
Thus blindly with thy blessedness
 at strife?
Full soon thy soul shall have her
 earthly freight,
And custom lie upon thee with a
 weight,
Heavy as frost, and deep almost as
 life!

.
Hence, in a season of calm weather,

Though inland far we be,
Our souls have sight of that im-
mortal sea
Which brought us hither,
Can in a moment travel thither,
And see the children sport upon the
shore,
And hear the mighty waters rolling
evermore.

WORDSWORTH

Be patient with every one, but above all with yourself. I mean, do not be disturbed because of your imperfections, and always rise up bravely from a fall. I am glad that you make a daily new beginning; there is no better means of progress in the spiritual life than to be continually beginning afresh, and never to think that we have done enough.

FRANCIS DE SALES

Build thee more stately mansions,
 O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than
 the last,
Shut thee from Heaven with a
 dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by
 life's unresting sea!

HOLMES

One's vocation is never some far off possibility. It is always the simple round of duties that the passing hour brings. No day is commonplace, if we only had eyes to see its splendor. There is no duty that comes to our hand, but brings to us the possibility of kingly service.

ANON

Life is not renunciation, but consecration, and is too holy a thing to be held in check, to be kept from attainments by trifles. Man sees life from the heights of divinity. Lesser heights mark the distance between growth and attainment; they measure the distance between the real self and the ideal toward which every true man struggles. The great tests are met by the power accumulated in overcoming the trifles borne in each day's battle.

THE OUTLOOK

The saviors of the world have been those who have dared to stand alone in the ideal. The world would have been nothing without its idealists. They have saved the world from material stagnation; they have awakened us to the spiritual lying back of the material.

Jesus set in motion an ideal of love. It is the ideal thought that transforms the face. The man that sees goodness in everything becomes lovely and beautiful himself. The ideal shall become the real, and all creation moves toward that end.

REV. E. L. GREER

Only those who have served Christ faithfully in the valleys of daily duty, and have lived near to Him, can climb with Him the Mount of Transfiguration. Daily faithfulness is the ladder to Heaven. Unless a man has trained himself for his chance, the chance will only make him ridiculous. A great occasion is worth to a man exactly what his antecedents have enabled him to make of it.

WILLIAM MATTHEWS

Everything passes away that is not in harmony with the ideal, with the eternal plan. Nothing but the excellent is permanent.

W. M. SALTER

LIFE'S TAPESTRY

Too long have I, methought, with
tearful eye,
Pored o'er this tangled work of
mine, and missed
Above each stitch awry and thread
confused;
Now will I think on what in years
gone by
I heard of them that weave fair
tapestry
At royal looms; and how they con-
stant use
To work on the rough side, and
still peruse
The pictured pattern set above
them high.

So will I set my copy high above,
And gaze and gaze, till on my
 spirit grows
Its gracious impress,—till some line
 of love,
Transferred upon my canvas, faintly
 glows;
Nor look too much on warp and
 woof, provide
He, whom I work for, sees their
 fairer side.

DORA GREENWELL

Every single act of sacrifice is part of the great sacrifice. Every act of love and kindness is only possible because it is part of the divine love; nothing can exist save as the result of the existence of its perfect ideal, and the ideal of perfect existence is God.

SHORTHOUSE

The life contains the life that is to
be,
And life itself is opportunity.
The years are God's permissions—
who aspire
May keep ascending higher, higher,
higher.
Life has its own conditions and
demands—
We hold its grandest issues in our
hands. ANTON D. CHESTER

If he falls into some error he does not fret over it, but rising up with a humble spirit, he goes on his way anew rejoicing. Were he to fall a hundred times in the day, he would not despair,—he would rather cry out lovingly to God, appealing to His tender pity. The really devout man has a horror of evil, but he has a still greater love of that which is good; he is more set on doing

what is right, than avoiding what is wrong. Generous, large-hearted, he is not afraid of danger in serving God, and would rather run the risk of doing His will imperfectly than not strive to serve Him lest he fail in the attempt.

GROU

That which endures in human character is the power of growth, the upward movement, the aspiration, always reaching on for better things than those already achieved. He who possesses these qualities never perishes, as a living influence. His spirit remains in the enlargement of other spirits, the clarification of other eyes, the strengthening of other wills. That which he achieved becomes the foundation of a still larger and more varied achievement; and so the ideal of one life is, in a sense, distributed,

and becomes the ideal of many lives. There is nothing to be sought more precious than this power of inspiring other men to more faithful work; this ability to reveal to others larger ideals of life and duty than they otherwise would have had. To have this power is to add materially to the moral and spiritual capital of society. The work of the fact-gatherer, of the student, of the maker of any material thing, may perish; but the influence of the man who has broadened life for others, and set the key-note of a higher strain, abides forever.

CHRISTIAN UNION

All things participate in the Divine Nature. The capacity of perfectibility is indefinite in man.

DANTE

Every soul which aspires to God as the chief end and aim of existence, every soul which loves God deeply, constantly and fervently, calls to itself, holds and commands invisible powers and harmonies of which its earth-bound imagination cannot dream. Every fervent prayer for light, for truth, for righteousness, is an unconscious willing of forces which make for the causes you advocate. All tends to the attaining of infinite perfection—that God may be in us and we in Him, that at last God shall be all in all.

C. L. DANIELS

We'll keep our aims sublime, our
eyes erect,
Although our woman-hands should
shake and fail.

E. B. BROWNING

Cultivate the habit of always seeing the best in people, and more than that, of drawing forth whatever is best in them.

ANON

It is by doing our duty that we learn to do it. So long as men dispute whether or no a thing is their duty, they get never the nearer.

PUSEY

If the larger number of people wait to make some specific change in life before endeavoring to realize their higher ideals in conduct, if a change in location and general rearrangement and readjustment of method and detail must precede the better living, then will it be more than likely to be indefinitely postponed.

LILIAN WHITING

How beautiful is youth! how bright
 it gleams
With its illusions, aspirations,
 dreams!
Book of beginnings, story without
 end,
Each maid a heroine, and each man
 a friend!
Aladdin's lamp, and Fortunatus'
 purse,
That holds the treasures of the
 universe!—
All possibilities are in its hands,
No danger daunts it and no foe
 withstands;
In its sublime audacity of faith,
“Be thou removed!” it to the
 mountain saith,
And with ambitious feet, secure
 and proud,
Ascends the ladder leaning on the
 cloud!

LONGFELLOW

No soul can ever truly see
Another's highest, noblest part
Save through the sweet philos-
ophy
And loving wisdom of the
heart.

I see the feet that fain would
climb,
You, but the steps that turn
astray,
I see the soul, unharmed, sublime,
You, but the garment and the
clay.

PHŒBE CARY

ST. SIMEON STYLITES

In olden days, from his stone pillar
high,
The Saint cried to the gaping crowd
below:
“Here stand I, twenty years in
sun and snow,

In dirt and prayer; how holy then
am I!"

But now we'd say: "Cease from
this idle cry,

Come from your pillar—here are
want and woe,

Sickness, and pain, and vice, to
overthrow—

By work 'tis best our God to
glorify,

'Unto the least of these' was His
command.

Oh, coward, fly not from the midst
of life,

But dare its follies and its sins
withstand,

And, warring in the never-ending
strife,

Hold but him holy who, with
helping hand,

Draws some poor lost one to the
firmer land."

J. W. G.

We may be now, in the present, that which we aspire to be, notwithstanding the interruptions and the daily demands. These are not obstacles nor hindrances, but sources of strength; or, rather, they become sources of strength when transformed by love and faith. Met with distrust and disturbance they bar the path; met with sunny faith they make themselves into stepping-stones.

To idealize this daily life and to make it worth idealizing is the secret of that mysterious attraction called charm.

LILIAN WHITING

Greatly begin! though thou have
time

But for a line, be that sublime—
Not failure, but low aim is crime.

LOWELL

Aspire, break bounds, I say,
Endeavor to be good, and better still,
And best. Success is naught,
endeavor's all.

BROWNING

One owes it to himself, to his friends, and the community in general, to live up to his best spiritual possibilities, not only now and then, on Sundays and holy days, but every day and every hour. Then shall the measure of time be found to be spiritual, not mechanical.

In humanity each individual has an ideal self, even though sometimes so overlaid and overshadowed with the material and unworthy, with the transient and the trivial, as to fail of being discernible.

LILIAN WHITING

If we would help others to amount to something, we had best first try to amount to something ourselves. And the more capable and reasonable we ourselves become, the more chance will there be of our employing our time wisely and to good advantage; and the more chance will there be of our work bearing good and wholesome fruit.

To accomplish the best results we must surround ourselves with a wholesome environment; for a wholesome intellectual environment strengthens the mind just as a wholesome physical environment strengthens the body.

Man is a sort of locomotive, a machine built *to get somewhere*, designed primarily to move forward, and to make other things move forward too. . . . Now, no locomotive, whether steam or human,

can do this without fuel (unless, perhaps, in a down-hill direction). If we would accomplish the best results we must take on board a good supply of coal before we start. In other words, if we want to do our work well we must be well equipped for it. . . .

We must strive to accomplish the greatest ultimate good, the greatest total of good, whether we make a good immediate showing or not. If we would build up an effective work that shall last, we must lay a good foundation first.

G. S.

Believe me better than my best,
And stronger than my strength can
hold;
Until your royal faith transmutes
My pebbles into gold.

PHELPS

I held it truth with him who
sings
To one clear harp in divers tones,
That men may rise on stepping-
stones
Of their dead selves to higher
things.

_____ TENNYSON

Like attracts like. There is a
tremendous power of attraction in
aspiration. "Set your affections on
things above," and you will get
them.

_____ ANON

This above all, to thine own self be
true,
And it must follow, as the night the
day,
Thou canst not then be false to any
man.

SHAKESPEARE

It may be that in some great need
Thy life's poor fragments are
 decreed
To help build up a lofty deed:
Thy heart should throb in vast
 content,
Thus knowing that it was but
 meant
As chord in one great instrument;
That even the discord in thy soul
May make completer music roll
From out the great harmonious
 whole.

A. PROCTER

In the struggle with ourselves the
great thing is never to accept defeat;
the man who staggers to his feet
after he has been thrown down and
pushes on in weakness and sorrow
is on the way to self-conquest.

THE OUTLOOK

All we have willed or hoped or
dreamed of Good, shall exist,—
Not its semblance, but itself!—
No Beauty, nor Good, nor Power,
Whose voice has gone forth, but
each survives for the melodist,
When Eternity affirms the con-
ception of an hour!
The High that proved too high,—
the Heroic for earth too hard,—
The Passion that left the ground
to lose itself in the sky,—
Are music sent up to God by the
lover and the bard;
Enough that he heard it once;—
We shall hear it by and by.
And what is our failure here but a
triumph's evidence
For the fullness of the days?
Have we withered or agonized?
Why else was the pause prolonged,
but that singing might issue
thence?

Why rushed the discords in, but that
 harmony should be prized ?
Sorrow is hard to bear, and doubt
 is slow to clear !
Each sufferer says his say, his end
 of the weal or woe ;
But God has a few of us whom He
 whispers in the ear ;
The rest may reason and welcome ;
 'tis we musicians know !

BROWNING

Almost everything a Christian has to do for his times and the sphere in which he lives transcends his ability, and the very greatness and joy of his experience (shall I not say the reality also ?) consists in the fact that he is exalted above himself, and made a partaker in his works, of a divine power, as in his character of the divine nature. He is a

man who lives in God, and by God is girded to his duties and his triumphs,—God in nature, God in the gospel, God in the spirit, God in the plenitude of His promises.

HORACE BUSHNELL

A strong purpose creates its own means of accomplishment. “If a god wishes to ride,” says Emerson, “every chip and stone will bud and shoot out winged feet for it to ride.”

To believe and go forward is the key to success and to happiness. Doubt and distrust are the negative and corrosive forces. The enthusiasm for a high purpose calls into being the agencies by means of which it may be accomplished.

LILIAN WHITING

Be as the bird, that
Chancing to alight
On a bough too slight,
Feels it give way beneath her,
And yet sings,
Knowing she hath wings!

VICTOR HUGO

A man who stands united with
his thought conceives magnificently
of himself. He is conscious of a uni-
versal success, even though brought
by uniform particular failures.

ANON

One who never turned his back,
but marched breast forward,
Never doubted clouds would break,
Never dreamed, though right were
worsted, wrong would triumph,
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to
fight better,
Sleep to wake.

BROWNING

Then welcome each rebuff
That turns earth's smoothness
 rough,
Each sting that bids nor sit nor
 stand, but go!
Be our joys three parts pain!
Strive, and hold cheap the strain;
Learn, nor account the pang; dare,
 never grudge the throe.

BROWNING

Nature is one harmonious expression of God's will, and human nature its crowning masterpiece; but the law of self-development which He has stamped upon all life makes its evolution to higher planes a slow and painful process, and in our groping after the ideal we are often wounded and bruised in our experimenting with what proves to be the unreal.

J. BELLANGEE
("The Arena")

For moans will have grown sphere-
music

Or ever your race be run!
And all's well that ends well,
Whirl, and follow the Sun!

TENNYSON

To idealize one's present vocation is to prepare for a higher and more profitable one. Work is not to be dodged, but transformed into development. The man must lift his effort, and not allow it to become merely mechanical. One's attitude toward it determines what it is—to him.

Human life is barren and disappointing unless inspired by an abiding and worthy purpose, and no talent grows except through faithful exercise.

HENRY WOOD

(*"Political Economy of Natural Law"*)

All common things, each day's
 events,
 That with the hour begin and
 end,
Our pleasures and our discontents,
 Are rounds by which we may
 ascend.

.

We have not wings, we cannot
 soar;
 But we have feet to scale and
 climb
By slow degrees, by more and
 more,
 The cloudy summits of our time.

The heights by great men reached
 and kept
 Were not attained by sudden
 flight,
But they, while their companions
 slept,
 Were toiling upward in the night.

Standing on what too long we
bore
With shoulders bent and down-
cast eyes,
We may discern—unseen before—
A path to higher destinies.
Nor deem the irrevocable Past
As wholly wasted, wholly vain,
If rising on its wrecks, at last
To something nobler we attain.

LONGFELLOW

Because the soul is progressive,
it never quite repeats itself, but in
every act attempts the production
of a new and fairer whole.

EMERSON

We are saved by our aspirations,
not by our freedom from temp-
tations; for real aspiration does
not stop short of personal right-
eousness.

THE OUTLOOK

The dawn is coming, O friends of humanity! For ages man has been slowly rising; the future is with the servants of justice; they fight in a winning cause; but the work of hastening the glad day is the duty of every man, woman and child who loves, hopes and aspires. We cannot evade our responsibility. The cause of morality, growth, progress and human happiness, calls for the consecration of hand, heart and brain.

B. O. FLOWER

I see my way as birds their track-
less way;
In some time—His good time—I
shall arrive!
He guides me and the bird.

BROWNING

MILLENNIAL PROMISE

Through the harsh noises of our
day
A low, sweet prelude finds its way;
Through clouds of doubt, and
creeds of fear,
A light is breaking, calm and clear;
That song of love, now low and far,
Ere long shall swell from star to
star!
That light, the breaking day, which
tips
The golden-spired apocalypse.

——— WHITTIER

If men everywhere held the criterion before them instead of comparing themselves among themselves, general progress towards the normal would be rapid. Ideals are always striving to actualize themselves.

HENRY WOOD

(*"Political Economy of Natural Law"*)

OUR DUTY

I reach a duty, yet I do it not,
And therefore see no higher; but,
 if done,
My view is brightened, and another
 spot
Seen on my moral sun.
For, be the duty high as angel's
 flight,
Fulfil it, and a higher will arise,
E'en from its ashes. Duty is
 infinite,
Receding as the skies.
And thus it is the purest most
 deplore
Their want of purity. As fold by
 fold,
In duties done, falls from their eyes,
 the more
Of duty they behold.
Were it not wisdom, then, to close
 our eyes
On duties crowding only to appall?

No! Duty is our ladder to the
skies,
And climbing not, we fall.

ROBERT LEIGHTON

THE FUGITIVE IDEAL

As some most pure and noble face,
Seen in the thronged and hurrying
street,
Sheds o'er the world a sudden
grace,
A flying odor sweet,
Then, passing, leaves the cheated
sense
Balked with a phantom excellence;
So, on our soul the visions rise
Of that fair life we never led:
They flash a splendor past our
eyes,—
We start, and they are fled;
They pass, and leave us with blank
gaze,
Resigned to our ignoble days.

WILLIAM WATSON

Those who, struggling against some infirmity, persevere with faith, in spite of failures and distress, are already conquerors in the struggle.

CALVIN

Ask God to show you your duty, and then do that duty well, and from that point you mount to the very peak of vision.

EDWARD EVERETT HALE

The interior state of mind of the American people to-day is one of expectation and desire, responsive to every prophecy of ideal truth. Beneath the worldliness and frivolity and notoriety-hunting of the time there is beginning to stir, like a great quiet tide beneath the restless waves, a new movement of philanthropy, education, and religion; and

it is not impossible, when the signs of the present age are summed up by some philosophic historian of the future, it may be described as a time, not of the boisterous materialism which is now conspicuous, but of the first beginnings of a great revival of idealism. . . . Self-conscious feebleness drops away from the young man who has found an ideal to which to give his life. With his faith comes his hope. . . . He does not sit with the contemptuous; he rises up to serve with the hopeful. He believes in his own times; not with the foolish optimism of a boy, but with that rational optimism which discerns that

“ Step by step, since time began,
We see the steady gain of man.”

Finally, this young man, thus waked from his inexperience into faith and hope, finds that his idealism

and his optimism are given him, not as luxuries to enjoy, but as instruments to use for the redemption of his time. He hears the cry of the age, issuing from its trouble and its sin, from its industrial maladjustments and its spiritual emptiness—the cry for well-trained men to serve in these new fields of redemption;—and he simply and humbly answers to this new call of God, “Lord, here am I; send me.”

F. G. PEABODY, D.D.

There are many persons who brood over their own weakness, and waste their precious time in pining over opportunities lost, instead of arming for the conflict, and going forward with double energy to regain what has been lost.

CHRISTIAN WORLD

ONWARD AND SUNWARD

Others shall sing the song,
Others shall right the wrong,
Finish what I begin,
And all I fail of win.

What matter I or they,
Mine or another's day,
So the right word is said,
And life the sweeter made !

Hail to the coming singers !
Hail to the brave light-bringers !
Forward I reach, and share
All that they sing and dare.

I feel the earth move sunward,
I join the great march onward,
And take by faith, while living,
My freehold of thanksgiving.

WHITTIER

To be a Christian man is to have
that character for our ideal in life,

to live under its influence, to do what He would wish us to do, to live the kind of life He would have lived in our house, and had He our day's routine to go through. It would not, perhaps, alter the forms of our life, but it would alter the spirit and aims and motives of our life, and the Christian man is he who in that sense lives under the influence of Jesus Christ.

DRUMMOND

Every change of position from lower to a higher, every step in progress, costs pain. But the real life is to be conserved only by its progression, and its adaptation to the new circumstances of the new age upon which that old life is to make its impress.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

GAIN

Life tends on and upward. By
mistakes
We learn. The hand which crushed
our idols takes
Our own and leads us to new
shrines; whose light
Shines but the brighter for past
error's night.

MRS. ALICE W. BROTHERTON

Do not dare to live without some
clear intention toward which your
living shall be bent. Mean to be
something with all your might.

PHILLIPS BROOKS

Our safety is in having lofty
ideals, and in constant labor to
secure their realization.

JOSEPH PARKER

To live nobly, energetically, up to one's best, and yet without worry, is one of the highest attainments possible. It is the ideal life. Our whole duty is to do the will of God, and leave in His hands the outworking of circumstances, the shaping and overruling of all the complicated network of influences so as to bring about the right results.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

Blindness to the faults of others is an evidence of lack of intelligence, but one may see faults clearly and at the same time see them in right relations to the whole character. A clear-sighted, wholesome, healthful relation to our fellows involves clear insight into our own weaknesses; but such a relation involves

still more a perception of the inherent possibilities of growth and development which are a part of the most imperfect character. One of the finest attitudes which a man can take toward those with whom he associates is that of a learner. When we look to others, not to discover what is unlovely in them, or to fasten our attention specifically upon their limitations, but to get something from them which they have to teach us, we are in a position not only to be helpful ourselves, but to help those with whom we are in fellowship.

THE OUTLOOK

Life is full of new starts. The only failure is to keep on resolving, the failure to start again.

PELOUBET

To stand uncompromisingly for the highest and best things is a noble attitude, and involves condemnation of any complacent acceptance of lower aims and standards; but the more single-hearted the pursuit of the highest things, the more reverent will be the attitude towards those who are taking the first steps along the difficult road. It is a cheap culture and a sham refinement of mind which ridicules or scorns the first sincere efforts of those who, finding that there is something better than they possess, have begun to strive for it. . . . In a democracy superior advantages impose responsibilities rather than confer immunities, and the trained man owes a peculiar duty to the untrained man. The deep instinct of the man who has had access to the finer resources of life ought to

bring him into closest fellowship with his less fortunate brother. A genuine culture craves opportunities of sharing that which it has secured, instead of withdrawing itself into a privileged seclusion, and the greater the need of others, the deeper is its desire to divide its possessions. To a man of such culture all aspiration is sacred, and crudity reaching out for growth is a claim for sympathy and help which has a divine urgency in it.

THE OUTLOOK

The mission of the ideal woman is to make the whole world home-like.

FRANCES E. WILLARD

To be conscious of limitation points to a larger, fuller, grander possibility dawning for us in the hereafter.

MATHESON

There are those who sigh for holiness and beauty of character, but they are not willing to pay the price. They sing, "More holiness give me," and dream of some lofty spiritual attainment, some transfiguration, but they are not willing to endure the toils, fight the battles, and make the self-sacrifices necessary to win these celestial heights. They want a larger spiritual inheritance, but they have no thought of taking it in primeval forests which their own hands must cut down.

JOHN R. MILLER

'Tis not the dying for a faith that's so hard,—every man of every nation has done that;—'tis the living up to it that is difficult.

THACKERAY

Progress is the law of life, man is
not Man as yet.
But in completed man begins
anew
A tendency to God.

BROWNING

Only by humble Doing can any
of us win the lofty possibilities of
Being. For, indeed, what we all
want to find is not so much our
place as our path. The path leads
to the place, and the place, when
we have found it, is only a clearing
by the roadside, an opening into
another path.

LUCY LARCOM

As the artist's ideal precedes his
picture, so the ideal woman must
be transformed before the actual
one can be.

FRANCES E. WILLARD

How can we learn to know ourselves? By reflection never, but by actions. Attempt to do your duty and you will immediately find what is in you.

GOETHE

Education is the penetrating deeper and rising higher into life as well as making continually wider explorations, the rounding of the whole human being out of its nebulous elements into form, as planets and suns are rounded, until they give out safe and steady light. This makes the process an infinite one, not possible to be completed at any school. The beauty of belonging to this school is that we cannot learn anything in it by ourselves alone, but for and with our fellow pupils, the wide earth over. We can never expect promotion here,

except by taking our place among the lowest, and sharing their difficulties until they are removed, and we all become graduates together for a higher school.

LUCY LARCOM

If you acquire, let it be that you may dispense; if you achieve, that others may sun themselves in the kind glow of your prosperity. The people who spend all their strength in absorbing are failures and parasites. It is alike the business of the sun and of the soul to radiate every particle of light that they contain.

FRANCES E. WILLARD

Art is not a study of positive reality, but a seeking after ideal truth.

GEORGE SAND

Their real power, the divine dowry of womanhood, is that of receiving and giving inspiration. In this a girl often surpasses her brother; and it is for her to hold firmly and faithfully to her holiest instincts, so that when he lets his standards droop, she may, through her spiritual strength, be a standard-bearer for him.

LUCY LARCOM

We shall be prepared for future opportunity, usefulness, happiness, only by diligent use of the present. We shall be ready for the greater blessing only as we grow in capacity for it; and without this growth, it is more than likely that the greater blessing will not, can not, come to us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

To give ourselves a reasonable prospect of success, we must realize what we hope to achieve; and then make the most of our opportunities.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK

It is at least a consolation to know that we long for better things, that something in us reaches out after them; for, as a German poet writes, "Whatever we greatly admire and profoundly desire to become, that we in some measure already are."

FRANCES E. WILLARD

It is the best society when people meet sincerely on the ground of their deepest sympathies and highest aspirations, without conventionality or cliques or affectations.

LUCY LARCOM

Half the misery of the world
comes from trying to *look* instead
of trying to be what one is not.

MACDONALD

Happy is the man who early
learns the difference between his
wishes and his powers.

GOETHE

Then life is—to wake, not sleep,
Rise and not rest, but press
From earth's level, where blindly
creep

Things perfected, more or less,
To the heaven's height, far and
steep.

BROWNING

Success demands considerable
practice in singing, and untiring
perseverance in its employment.

ANNA C. BRACKETT

Those who are walking up to the light they have are always the most ready to welcome more light when it appears. WM. M. TAYLOR

It is a sad weakness in us, after all, that the thought of a man's death hallows him anew to us; as if life were not sacred, too,—as if it were comparatively a light thing to fail in love and reverence to the brother who has to climb the whole toilsome steep with us, and all our tears and tenderness were due to the one who is spared that hard journey. GEORGE ELIOT

The best reward for any faithful work is the privilege of going on and proving our faithfulness with more difficult tasks.

LUCY LARCOM

An honorable defeat is better than a mean victory, and no one is really the worse for being beaten, unless he loses heart. Though we may not be able to attain, that is no reason why we should not aspire.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK

Because all those scattered rays of beauty and loveliness which we behold spread up and down over all the world, are only the emanations of that inexhausted light which is above; therefore should we love them all in that, and climb up always by those sunbeams unto the eternal Father of lights: we should look upon Him and take from Him the pattern of our lives, and, always eyeing Him, should, as Hierocles speaks, “polish and shape our souls into the clearest resemblance

of Him ”; and in all our behavior in this world (that great temple of His) deport ourselves decently and reverently, with that humility, meekness, and modesty that becomes His house.

DR. JOHN SMITH, d. 1652

Every human affection, could it take the course God meant for it, would link us to the angelic and the divine.

LUCY LARCOM

It is the results which we have garnered that are of consequence to us, not the steps by which we gained them. It is what we *are*, not what we have done, or what any one else has done, that concerns us.

ANNA C. BRACKETT

Without the spiritual, observe,
The natural's impossible,—no form,
No motion: without sensuous,
 spiritual
Is inappreciable,—no beauty or
 power:
And in this twofold sphere the
 twofold man
(For still the artist is intensely a
 man)
Holds firmly by the natural, to
 reach
The spiritual beyond it,—fixes still
The type with mortal vision, to
 pierce through,
With eyes immortal, to the ante-
 type
Some call the ideal,—better call the
 real,
And certain to be called so pres-
 ently
When things shall have their
 names. E. B. BROWNING

A soul occupied with great ideas best performs small duties; the divinest views of life penetrate most clearly into the meanest emergencies; so far from petty principles being best proportioned to petty trials, a heavenly spirit taking up its abode with us can alone sustain well the daily toils, and tranquilly pass the humiliations of our condition.

MARTINEAU

Never let us be discouraged with ourselves; it is not when we are conscious of our faults that we are the most wicked; on the contrary, we are less so. We see by a brighter light; and let us remember, for our consolation, that we never perceive our sins till we begin to cure them.

FÉNELON

In God's world, for those who are in earnest, there is no failure. No work truly done, no word earnestly spoken, no sacrifice freely made was ever made in vain.

ROBERTSON

Now, believe me, God hides some ideal in every human soul. At some time in our life we feel a trembling, fearful longing to do some good thing. Life finds its noblest spring of excellence in this hidden impulse to do our best. There is a time when we are not content to be such merchants or doctors or lawyers as we see on the dead level or below it. The woman longs to glorify her womanhood as sister, wife, or mother. . . . Here is God,—God standing silently at the door all day long,—God whispering to the soul, that to be

pure and true is to succeed in life,
and whatever we get short of that
will burn up like stubble, though
the whole world try to save it.

ROBERT COLLYER

The essence of the religious
faculty is its power to discover
that there is something which
transcends nature,—that the very
existence of a visible order pre-
supposes the existence of some-
thing which is not visible.

MATHESON

Not only around our infancy
Doth Heaven with all its splendors
lie;
Daily, with souls that cringe and
plot,
We Sinais climb and know it not.

LOWELL

There is no action so slight nor so mean but it may be done to a great purpose, and ennobled therefore; nor is any purpose so great but that slight actions may help it, and may be so done as to help it much, most especially, that chief of all purposes—the pleasing of God.

—————
RUSKIN

Coming to the point is the law of achievement.

FRANCES E. WILLARD
—————

Little obediences lead into great. The daily round of duty is full of probation and of discipline; it trains the will, heart, and conscience. We need not to be prophets or apostles. The commonest life may be full of perfection. The duties of home are a discipline for the ministries of Heaven.

MANNING

May I reach
That purest heaven,—be to other
souls
The cup of strength in some great
agony!—
Enkindle generous ardor,—feed
pure love,—
Beget the smiles that have no
cruelty,—
Be the sweet presence of a good
diffused,
And in diffusion ever more intense!
So shall I join the choir invisible,
Whose music is the gladness of the
world.

GEORGE ELIOT

There's not a man
That lives who hath not known
his godlike hours,
And feels not what an empire we
inherit.

WORDSWORTH

Our knowledge that there is a supernatural is not suggested by the supernatural; it comes from the very limits of experience, which the gnostic and agnostic alike hold to be barriers of our view of God.

The very recognition of a barred gate implies the recognition of something on the other side against which it is barred. It is by the knowledge of man's finitude that he reaches the idea of a Divine existence.

MATHESON

To love God is to love His character. For instance, God is Purity. And to be pure in thought and look, to turn away from unhallowed books and conversation, to abhor the moments in which we have not been pure, is to love God. God is Love; and to love men till private

attachments have expanded into a philanthropy which embraces all,—at last even the evil and enemies with compassion,—that is to love God. God is Truth. To be true, to hate every form of falsehood, to live a brave, true, real life,—that is to love God. God is Infinite; and to love the boundless, reaching on from grace to grace, adding charity to faith, and rising upwards ever to see the Ideal still above us, and to die with it unattained, aiming insatiably to be perfect even as the Father is perfect,—that is to love God.

ROBERTSON

Every life has its potentiality of greatness, and as it is impossible to be outside God, the best is consciously to dwell in Him.

AMIEL

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

CONFUCIUS

I believe that if we could only see beforehand what it is that our heavenly Father means us to be,—the *soul* beauty and perfection and glory, the glorious and lovely spiritual body that this soul is to dwell in through all eternity,—if we could have a glimpse of *this*, we should not grudge all the trouble and pains He is taking with us now, to bring us up to that ideal, which is His thought of us. We know that it is God's way to work slowly, so we must not be surprised if He takes a great many years of discipline to turn a mortal being into an immortal, glorious angel.

ANNIE KEARY

The little worries which we meet
each day
May lie as stumbling-blocks across
our way,
Or we may make them stepping-
stones to be
Of grace, O Lord, to Thee.

A. E. HAMILTON

The soul ceases to weary itself with planning and foreseeing, giving itself up to God's Holy Spirit within, and to the teachings of His providence without. . . . He is not forever fretting as to his progress, or looking back to see how far he is getting on; rather he goes steadily and quietly on, and makes all the more progress because it is unconscious. So he never gets troubled and discouraged; if he falls he humbles himself, but gets up at once, and goes on with renewed earnestness.

GROU

If we look down, then our shoulders stoop. If our thoughts look down, our character bends. It is only when we hold our heads up that the body becomes erect. It is only when our thoughts go up that our life becomes erect.

ALEXANDER MCKENSIE

High hearts are never long without hearing some new call, some distant clarion of God, even in their dreams; and soon they are observed to break up the camp of ease, and start on some fresh march of faithful service. And, looking higher still, we find those who never wait till their moral work accumulates, and who reward resolution with no rest; with whom, therefore, the alternation is instantaneous and constant; who do the good only to see

the better, and see the better only to achieve it; who are too meek for transport, too faithful for remorse, too earnest for repose; whose worship is action, and whose action ceaseless aspiration. MARTINEAU

We owe a deep debt of gratitude to everything which enables us to rise above depressing and enslaving circumstances, which brings us nearer in some way or other to what is eternal in the universe, and which makes us know that, whether we live or die, suffer or enjoy, life and gladness are still strong in the world.

SYMONDS

'Tis best by far,
When best things are not possible,
To make the best of those that are.

COVENTRY PATMORE

The blessed work of helping the
world forward happily does not
wait to be done by perfect men.

GEORGE ELIOT

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

LONGFELLOW

So many worlds, so much to do,
So little done, such things to be!

TENNYSON

One's real self is himself at his
best, in the direction of his aspirings
and strivings; it is himself as he
wants to be, and as he is trying to
be, rather than himself as he now is.

TRUMBULL

The recognition of the ideal is the first step in the direction of conformity. But let it be clearly observed that it is but a step. There is no vital connection between merely seeing the ideal and being conformed to it. Thousands admire Christ who never become Christians.

DRUMMOND

Men have often failed to do what they might have done because they have not had enough confidence in themselves. They have never done much good in the world simply because they never knew how much good they could do. They have not perceived or realized the power that God has given them.

DAVID H. GREER

Let us then be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor, and to wait.

LONGFELLOW

Immortality will come to such as
are fit for it, and he who would be
a great soul in the future, must be a
great soul now. EMERSON

There are some men and women
in whose company we are always
at our best. While with them we
cannot think mean thoughts or
speak ungenerous words. Their
mere presence is elevation, purifi-
cation, sanctity. All the best stops
in our nature are drawn out by their
intercourse, and we find a music in
our souls that was never there
before. DRUMMOND

Whatever your present self may be, resolve with all your strength of resolution never to degenerate thence. Be jealous of a shadow of falling off. Determine rather to look above that standard and to strive beyond it.

CHARLOTTE BRONTË

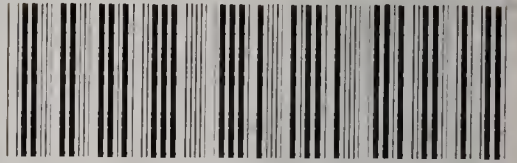
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